

Ten hurt in Fatch-Hamas clash

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — One Palestinian was stabbed and nine others were hurt in a stone-throwing melee in the Gaza Strip on Monday, the latest clash in a deepening rift between Fatch and Hamas fundamentalist Hamas supporters. Arab reports said the man stabbed in the confrontation in the Maghazi refugee camp was a member of Hamas. The two sides have long been at odds over the Middle East peace process. Fatch favours negotiations with Israel, while Hamas calls for overthrowing the Jewish state. The latest violence between the groups began in the Gaza town of Beni Sabaleh on Friday, when Fatch members confronted a Gaza family and demanded to talk with a son active with Hamas, Arab reports said. The family responded with stones and the Fatch activists opened fire, wounding five in the family. Weekend clashes with stones and clubs left at least five Palestinians injured, Arab reports said.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily
عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية - والراية
جوردان تايمز يومية

Iran wants U.S. condemned for Airbus crime

NICOSIA (R) — Iran said on Monday the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) was no longer justified in refusing to condemn the United States for shooting down an Iranian airliner four years ago. "Recent admissions by U.S. officials about this tragedy are clear and compelling evidence in the biggest crime in the history of civil aviation," Iran Air Managing Director Hassan Shafit said in remarks quoted by Tehran Radio. The U.S. cruiser Vincennes shot down the Iran Air Airbus over the Gulf in 1988 with the loss of all 290 people on board. Retired Admiral William Crowe, former chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, said last week the Vincennes was in Iranian waters, not international waters as previously claimed, when it shot down the Airbus. Mr. Shafit said Iran reserved the right to "pursue the matter in any way it deems fit" if international bodies failed to redress its rights. "The silence of international organisations, especially the ICAO, is unjustified," he said.

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Sudanese leader renews amnesty

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan's leader Lieutenant General Omar Hassan Al-Bashir renewed an amnesty for opponents on Monday on the third anniversary of the coup that brought him to power. In a speech before hundreds of thousands of citizens in a "green square" especially constructed for the occasion, Gen. Bashir said his government pardoned and assures a safe homecoming for those who left in protest against his regime and those who carry arms against it in the south. Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat attended the ceremony as did Iraqi Vice President Taha Yassin Ramadan. Other delegations were sent by the provisional government in Eritrea and from Syria, Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Egypt, Turkey and Ethiopia.

Israeli navy gets new chief

TEL AVIV (AP) — Brigadier General Ami Ayalon was named Monday as the new commander of Israel's navy. He replaces Major General Michal Ram, who is retiring. Gen. Ayalon, 47, a former underwater commando, was the navy's deputy commander. Israel's navy is small, with 10,000 troops and 10,000 reservists. According to the Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University, it has three submarines, 23 missile-carrying fast patrol boats and nearly 50 coastal patrol boats, the centre says. Two more subs are on order. The navy's equipment includes Gabriel surface-to-surface missiles, the centre says.

Mitterrand speaks to wife after attack

MUNICH (R) — French President Francois Mitterrand spoke to his wife by telephone on Monday after she narrowly escaped death in a car bomb attack while visiting Iraqi Kurdistan, a French presidential spokesman said. Danielle Mitterrand, a human rights campaigner whose activism on behalf of the Kurds has sometimes embarrassed French diplomacy, reassured her husband that she and her accompanying aides were unscathed and well, spokesman Jean Musitelli said. He said France would await further information before drawing any conclusions about the cause of the attack. (see page 2) "We have no elements which enable us to make serious comment," he said. The president spoke to his wife during a break in the Group of Seven economic summit in Munich and stuck to his schedule.

Father of French A-bomb dies

PARIS (R) — Professor Francis Perrin, father of the French atomic bomb, has died aged 90, the Academy of Science said on Monday. A spokeswoman for the academy said Prof. Perrin died of natural causes on Saturday. Son of physicist Jean Perrin, who won the Nobel Prize in 1926, Francis Perrin was best known for developing France's nuclear energy and weapons programmes after World War II. He was French high commissioner for atomic energy from 1951 to 1970. This included the period of the early 1960s when France conducted nuclear tests in the Sahara Desert at the instigation of the then President Charles de Gaulle, who wanted the country to have its own independent nuclear deterrent.

U.N. envoy ends talks in Iran

NICOSIA (R) — Iran said on Monday a U.N. envoy ended two weeks of "positive" talks in Tehran over ways of organising international help for reconstruction of Iran after war. Speaking on Tehran Radio, Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said Mohammad Ali Niaz, adviser to U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, would return to Tehran probably before the end of the year to follow up the talks. Mr. Velayati, who met Mr. Niaz on Monday, said the envoy had held "positive" talks about Iran's reconstruction needs with relevant officials over the past two weeks.

G-7 leaders open summit bemoaning slump in economy

MUNICH, Germany (Agencies) — Group of Seven (G-7) leaders opened a summit on Monday with a lament for the dismal performance of the global economy.

A new aid package for Russia was in prospect but it was evident that the West's gloom over the end of the cold war and its 1991 Gulf war victory over Iraq has suddenly turned sour.

A gloomy plenary session of the 18th annual economic summit heard France's President Francois Mitterrand talk about "the social gangrene" of unemployment.

The French leader said he described as half-hearted the present fiscal 1.8 per cent rate of expansion in the industrial economies on which jobs — and votes — depend.

Leaders of the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Britain, Italy and Canada were said to be determined to try to do something.

But early briefings indicated that only modest measures may emerge from 10 hours of talk in Munich, spread over three days at a cost in hotel bills, policing

and rich Bavarian gastronomy of \$20 million.

Neither Germany nor Japan was offering interest rate cuts at a summit which was taking place amid bickering between key players and when most leaders are hamstrung by political unpopularity at home.

Diplomats said they would also be surprised if the United States and European Community can settle differences in Munich on farm subsidies which have stymied GATT free trade talks.

High interest rates and big deficits — the U.S. deficit is close to \$400 billion — were blamed for capitalism's economic woes as well as the GATT failure to get an accord to fire up worldwide trade.

On the political front, the G-7 was to address the turmoil in the East after the collapse of communism.

German sources said the G-7 would flex muscles on Yugoslavia and that a summit statement would hold "the sword of Damocles" of military intervention over Serbia if fighting did not end. But an early draft on Yugoslavia was being toned down.

After a formal opening session, host Chancellor Helmut Kohl met over lunch with his guests — President Mitterrand and George Bush of the United States and prime ministers John Major of Britain, Brian Mulroney of Canada, Giuliano Amato of Italy and Kiichi Miyazawa of Japan.

Dieter Vogel, chief spokesman for Chancellor Kohl, said he expected during their two days of talks the leaders will approve a statement similar to one endorsed at the EC summit in Lisbon last month.

The EC communique left it to the U.N. Security Council to decide whether military force might be necessary to force open the airport in Sarajevo for relief flights, which have since begun.

"One naturally cannot exclude military measures" under auspices of the U.N. Security Council, said one German source.

A senior U.S. official said the United States was particularly concerned that relief convoys be able to move safely in Bosnia and added that the leaders would discuss "contingencies."

(Continued on page 5)

Rabin reports progress in coalition efforts, but Darawshe sees racism

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Labour Party Yitzhak Rabin said Monday that negotiations were progressing towards forming a government, announcing an agreement that could bring the ultra-religious Shas party into his coalition.

Mr. Rabin made the statement to a news conference at which he discussed a longstanding police investigation into Shas leader Aryeh Deri, who has always maintained the probe was politically motivated.

The Labour leader said Mr. Deri had agreed to withdraw from the government should criminal charges be brought against him, a step that would remove a major impediment to Shas joining a Rabin-led cabinet.

"This conclusion has been reached before an agreement has been signed. The negotiations are... advancing," Mr. Rabin said. "I see progress with most of the parties."

But he added he did not want set deadlines and hoped for an agreement "in coming days."

Mr. Rabin stressed he was not

interfering in the police investigation of Mr. Deri, but wanted to establish "new norms of behaviour" lacking in the past, a step at the outgoing cabinet of Likud leader Yitzhak Shamir.

Rabin aide Gad Ben-Ari said Mr. Deri had given Mr. Rabin a letter pledging to suspend himself if charges were brought. Mr. Rabin added he wanted to make clear "if a charge sheet is submitted to the court, the minister involved in this will withdraw himself."

The Labour leader told reporters that the stretching out of the investigation for two years should "bring the authorities to hasten the treatment of this matter."

The investigation of Mr. Deri, interior minister in the outgoing government, followed accusations that he funnelled government funds into religious schools run by Shas. He has denied any wrongdoing, and no charges have yet been filed against him.

Israel Radio has reported that Shas, with six parliamentary seats, and the United Torah Judaism Party, with four, were close to joining a Rabin coalition.

Mr. Rabin's Labour Party won 44 seats in the 120-member parliament in June 23 elections, meaning he needs the votes of two or three other parties to form a majority.

An agreement for Shas or United Torah to join the coalition could break a deadlock between two large parties that Mr. Rabin has sought to bring into the government — the left-wing Meretz, with 12 seats, and the right-wing Likud, with eight.

The two parties disagree on what stand the government should take on Jewish settlements in the occupied territories. Meretz wants a freeze on settlements; Likud wants Mr. Rabin to agree to fund 20,000 housing units already started there.

Mr. Rabin has sought a middle ground, backing off from his party's platform promise to freeze settlements for a year during negotiations but saying he would not do anything to harm peace negotiations with the Arabs.

The issue will be important both in the talks and in Mr. Rabin's hope to improve relations with the United States.

(Continued on page 5)

Israeli civil rights group urges investigation of 'death squads'

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli civil rights activists on Monday urged the incoming government to launch an investigation of army undercover "death squads" operating against Palestinians.

"We hope Yitzhak Rabin will reconsider many of the policies which he introduced or enforced in the territories," David Kretzmer, chairman of the Association for Civil Rights in Israel, told a news conference.

The group also called on the new government to end expulsions of Palestinian activists, stop house demolitions and ban punitive curfews in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Mr. Rabin's left-centre Labour Party won 44 seats in last month's parliamentary elections and is in the process of wooing coalition partners to form a government.

Mr. Rabin was defence minister during the first years of the 4½ year Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation of the territories. He approved many of the punishments still applied to the 1.8 million Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza.

Mr. Kretzmer said the association was concerned about reports that Israeli undercover units have killed Palestinian suspects in violation of army firing rules.

The rules, which have never been made public in full, require soldiers to shoot for a fleeing suspect to halt, fire a warning

shot in the air and then aim at the legs of a fleeing suspect.

The Israeli human rights group B'tselem says at least 86 Palestinians have been killed by undercover units since they were formed in 1988. The troops often are disguised as Arabs, and army sources say their main targets are wanted or armed Palestinians.

B'tselem and Palestinian human rights groups also have urged a public probe of the undercover teams.

The Association for Civil Rights said that deportations violate international law. Some 67 Palestinians have been expelled since the start of the uprising in December 1987.

The organisation is defending one of 11 Palestinians who are appealing deportation orders issued last January.

Mr. Kretzmer also called upon the new government to end "collective punishment" in the occupied territories.

The group urged an end to house demolitions and condemned curfews, which it charged were often imposed for punitive rather than security reasons.

More than 380 Palestinian houses have been destroyed and 240 sealed by troops since the start of the uprising, according to human rights groups.

The pace of demolitions has slowed since June 1989, when the Israeli supreme court ruled in a case brought by the Association

for Civil Rights that homeowners must be allowed to appeal army demolition orders to the court.

The news conference marked the 20th anniversary of the association, which has provided legal assistance in both Jewish and Arab cases.

Mr. Kretzmer said his group relied on the leftist Meretz bloc, a key party Mr. Rabin is wooing for his coalition, to force change if the former army chief and defence minister balked at ending the abuse of Palestinian human rights.

"Mr. Rabin is not the only person in this government. There are other people... and we are hoping that they will effect a change in the policies which he adopted while he was the minister of defence," Mr. Kretzmer said.

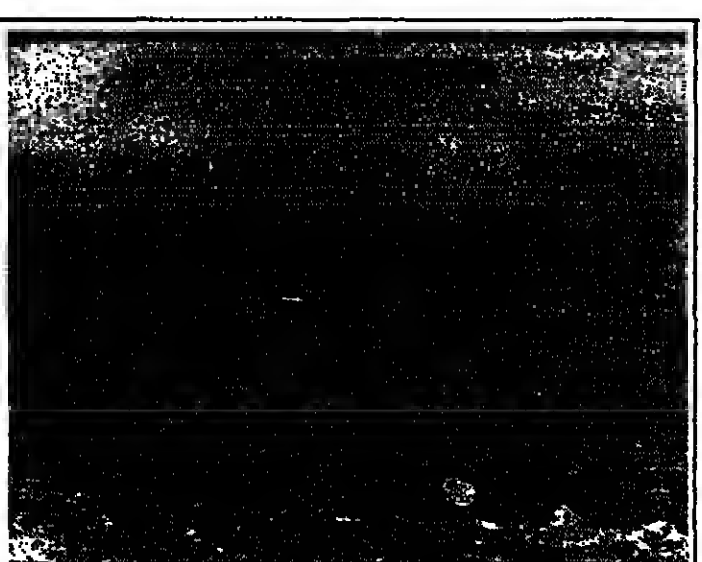
Palestinians and human rights groups also have protested that Palestinians have been routinely tortured during questioning ever since a 1987 government commission condoned use of "moderate physical pressure."

Mr. Rabin, continuing Arab-Israeli peace talks begun in Madrid last October, wants to give limited self-rule to the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip within a year.

But reacting to a spate of Arab-Israeli violence immediately after the election, Mr. Rabin warned Palestinians he was ready to use "an iron fist."



ENGINEERING SKILLS: The Royal Engineering Corps of the Armed Forces Monday marked its annual day with celebration attended by His Majesty King Hussein. The celebration included exhibition of machinery and equipment as well as exercises. The



celebrations were attended by the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and senior Armed Forces, officers as well as the Royal Court chief and the ministers of public works and housing, water and energy and mineral resources and other senior officials.

Hekmatyar man joins government

KABUL (Agencies) — Afghanistan's new prime minister took his seat at the Islamic interim government, Monday, ending a two-month boycott by hardline fundamentalist rebels who had threatened to destroy the capital and seize power.

Hundreds of armed rebels belonging to the radical Hezb-e-Islami faction escorted Prime Minister Ustad Abdul Saboor Fareed through the gates of Kabul, two days after the group fired rockets into the city that killed at least 100 people.

Mr. Fareed, 40, a former school teacher from eastern Kapisa province, was Hezb-e-Islami's most effective rebel commander in the 14-year war against successive governments installed by the former Soviet Union. He was given the premiership in the Islamic government under an agreement hastily drafted by the different Mujahideen factions who replaced the old communist government.

Initially, Hezb-e-Islami's firebrand leader, Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, refused to join the new government and had threatened to destroy the city and seize power. But Mr. Hekmatyar became increasingly isolated politically and militarily by the other rebel groups as well as the army and militia that supported them.

A week ago, Mr. Hekmatyar announced conditional support for the government, but said his party would continue to boycott the new government if lawlessness by armed gangs that roam the capital continued.

Interim President Burhanuddin Rabbani said the government was trying to rid the unpolluted streets and government buildings of armed gunmen who overran the city after the communist regime collapsed in late April.

Refugee flood

Afghan refugees are flooding back to their shattered homeland so quickly they could overwhelm United Nations to help them survive and rebuild their lives.

(Continued on page 5)

Abu Jaber describes outcome of Arab League meeting as positive

AMMAN (J.T.) — Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber Monday described as positive the outcome of an emergency meeting by the Arab League Council which concluded in Cairo Sunday.

Dr. Abu Jaber, who represented Jordan at the meeting, noted that participants in the meeting issued a political resolution calling on Israel to withdraw from Lebanese territory and another economic resolution calling Arabs to contribute to a fund for reconstructing Lebanon.

Dr. Abu Jaber, who returned home late Sunday, told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Arab countries participating in the Middle East peace process and Egypt held talks on the sidelines of the Arab League meeting.

These parties, he said, decided to hold a coordination meeting in Damascus in the last week of July

to discuss the peace process before the start of the next round of Arab-Israeli bilateral talks.

The foreign minister said that lack of solidarity among Arab states contributes to undermining the positions of Arab parties to the talks.

In comments on Israel's President-elect Yitzhak Rabin's stated plans for peace with the Arabs, Dr. Abu Jaber said: "The Israelis can state whatever they want, but this does not mean the end of the road because there are certain conditions for the peace process."

"Based on these conditions Jordan and the other Arab parties agreed to enter the negotiations, and these principles call for comprehensive, not partial solutions."

Dr. Abu Jaber said he had a meeting with Osama Al Baz, the

personal advisor of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, to discuss the peace process and Jordanian-Egyptian relations.

The foreign minister visited Hungary and Romania before flying to Cairo.

"Officials in these two friendly countries affirmed their support for Jordan's role in the peace process... and expressed their countries' readiness to present any needed assistance to bring the process to a successful end," Dr. Abu Jaber told Petra.

Hungary and Romania welcomed Jordan's desire to enhance economic and commercial relations with Jordan.

"They expressed readiness to achieve that end and welcomed the contributions of the Jordanian private sector in promoting bilateral relations and launching joint ventures," he said.

U.N.-Iraq stalemate continues outside ministry building

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — A stalemate continued Monday as U.N. chemical weapons inspectors staked out Iraq's Ministry of Agriculture for a second day in the latest confrontation between the United Nations and Baghdad.

They maintained a round-the-clock watch to prevent the possible removal of weapons-related documents or other materials after being barred entrance to the building the day before.

Team leader Karen Jansen, a U.S. chemist, took most of her 16-member team on an unannounced visit to a new site but left five inspectors in an air-conditioned car on guard outside the ministry.

There was no sign of a compromise in the standoff at the building — the first Baghdad ministry headquarters that U.N. inspectors have demanded to enter.

Employees were freely entering and leaving the building and there was no sign of security forces or police in the area.

Before leaving for the new site,

Major Jansen said she was waiting for a decision from New York on the next step in the standoff.

"We are still awaiting a decision from New York... as to what our next step will be," she told Reuters. The Security Council was due to meet in New York Monday afternoon.

"Yes, we're still maintaining vigilance," an aide of Maj. Jansen, told the AP by satellite telephone from Baghdad.

It was the first open Iraqi challenge to the council since a March ultimatum given to Deputy Premier Tariq Aziz because of Baghdad's alleged foot-dragging and concealment of information related to its weapons of mass destruction.

Under U.N. ceasefire terms, Iraq must allow the inspectors to eliminate its nuclear, chemical and biological weapons potentials as well as its long-range missiles.

Iraq must also agree to a long-term monitoring plan that will allow U.N. inspectors to make unscheduled inspection visits to any site within the country, as

Maj. Jansen's team sought to do.

"Unless the Iraqis back down, she will be maintaining the vigil," said Alastair Livingston, Bahrain-based regional chief for the U.N. special commission overseeing the process.

He said commission chief Rolf Ekeus would be briefing the Security Council on the developments.

On Monday, the Iraqi News Agency quoted Foreign Ministry Under-Secretary Saoudun Al Zubaidi as saying the team's main goal was to collect intelligence information against Iraq.

A similar standoff last year left another U.N. team, also led by an American, in another Baghdad parking lot for four days before it got what it wanted: Documents concerning Iraq's nuclear weapons programme.

As the bored U.N. inspectors waited outside the Baghdad ministry on Monday, an Iraqi handed them a copy of the newspaper Al Thawra with a front-page picture of Maj. Jansen over the caption: "She is impudent."

Northern Irish parties open talks with Dublin

LONDON (Agencies) — Leaders of Northern Ireland's main political parties opened unprecedented formal talks with the Irish government on Monday in search of a peace formula to end more than two decades of violence in the British province.

The talks, chaired by former Australian Governor-General Sir Ninian Stephen, could lead to a breakthrough in lengthy British efforts to find a way to return Northern Ireland to local government after 18 years of direct rule from London.

They marked the first time since 1969 in political and sectarian violence in Northern Ireland, where Protestants hold a majority. The Irish Republic is overwhelmingly Roman Catholic.

"Our attitude at the discussions will be one of openness and generosity, all recognising that we do not want to inflict another 23 years of violence on both communities in the north of Ireland," Irish Prime Minister

Albert Reynolds said in Dublin. Mr. Reynolds added that his government wanted to work out "some new approaches that, first of all, can bring peace to the island, and secondly, can establish a better understanding, and get rid of distrust between the communities."

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Mrs. Mitterrand, Kouchner escape carbomb in Iraq

GENEVA (Agencies) — Danielle Mitterrand, the wife of President François Mitterrand and a top French minister narrowly escaped a carbomb attack that killed four people in northern Iraq on Monday, a United Nations source said.

Ten bystanders were hurt, three seriously, in the 8:45 a.m. local time attack outside the town of Sulaimaniyah in the Kurdish area of Iraq, said the source, who requested anonymity.

Mrs. Mitterrand and Bernard Kouchner, France's minister for health and humanitarian action, escaped unhurt and continued a trip in the area on behalf of private aid causes, the source said.

"They were not hurt and the convoy proceeded," he said. The Iraqi national congress, an umbrella group for organisations opposed to the Iraqi government, said the explosion killed three Iraqi Kurdish guerrillas who were travelling in the last car of Mrs. Mitterrand's motorcade.

The guerrillas were serving as special security guards for her, the congress said in a statement telefaxed to the Associated Press in Nicosia.

The fourth person killed was a 10-year-old boy, the statement added.

A policeman at the scene said the explosive-laden car had a U.N. logo on it, but that this could have been a disguise, the source said.

Pieces of metal were said to have scattered 50 metres, setting another car on fire.

U.N. agencies have had relief programmes in the area since the failed Kurdish rebellion last year. Kurds have long been seeking greater autonomy or independence from Iraq.

Mrs. Mitterrand heads a non-government humanitarian organisation and has travelled abroad for years to promote the cause.

Mr. Kouchner accompanied President Mitterrand on his recent dramatic visit to Sarajevo, the capital of war-torn Bosnia.

Mrs. Mitterrand's and Mr. Kouchner flew to northern Iraq from Diyabakir in southeast Turkey on Saturday.

More than half a million Kurds fled to Turkey last April after their brief rebellion.

In Baghdad, Iraq's army newspaper Al Qadisiya denounced the Mitterrand-Kouchner visit as an "impolite violation of a free and an independent U.N. member country."

It said in a commentary on Monday: "Danielle Mitterrand, who is closely linked to Zionism and separatist groups (Kurdish rebel groups) in northern Iraq, cannot justify her frivolous behaviour with a humanitarian cover."

"There are hundreds of humanitarian cases in various world spots which has not shaken the sophisticated conscience of the lady at the Elysee. Prominent among them are the deaths of Iraqi children due to milk and medicine shortages ... caused by brutal blockade imposed on 12 million Iraqis for more than 28 months."

If only Mitterrand were an Arab — Libyan paper

NICOSIA (R) — A Libyan newspaper, deploring Arab inaction on Tripoli's crisis with the West, said on Monday it hoped the Arab Nation had someone like French President François Mitterrand to break a three-month-old U.N. ban on Libya.

"Who among the Arabs boarded his plane and declared his alliance with us by breaking through the unjust blockade... certainly no-one," the Green March newspaper said in an editorial carried by the state-run Libyan news agency JANA.

Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has praised Mr. Mitterrand, who last week flew by helicopter in a daring demonstration of support for the United Nations force trying to organise a relief airlift to the starving Bos-

nian capital Sarajevo.

"Mitterrand was determined to declare that he is more courageous than any Muslim," the paper said, likening the Serbian siege of Sarajevo to the air and arms ban imposed by the United Nations last April because of Libya's failure to hand over two nationals accused of blowing up a Pan Am airliner.

"If only Mitterrand were an Arab because we are confident he would have boarded his plane and landed in Tripoli despite this blockade imposed by the so-called international legitimacy," the paper said.

"All (Arabs) have adhered to international legitimacy and have abandoned the legitimacy of this nation (Libya) in the bathrooms of their palaces," it added.

Iran and Iraq pledge closer ties with Sudan

NICOSIA (R) — Iran has pledged closer bilateral relations with African ally Sudan, which also has growing ties with Tehran's former Gulf war enemy Iraq.

Iran reaffirmed its commitment to closer ties in a verbal message sent by President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani to Sudanese leader Lieutenant Hassan Omar Al-Bashir on the third anniversary of his takeover in Khartoum, Iran's IRNA agency said.

"President Rafsanjani in his message reiterated Iran's will to promote bilateral cooperation and also Tehran's readiness to jointly confront the common enemies of Sudan and Iran," said the IRNA report received in Nicosia.

Iran is widely reported to be helping Sudanese forces in a campaign to crush Christian-anthist southern guerrillas battling Khartoum's Islamic dominated government.

But Tehran denies reports that

large numbers of its Revolutionary Guard Corps are fighting alongside Sudanese troops who have taken about a dozen rebel towns in an ongoing dry-season offensive.

Iraq also said it was sending its vice-president, Taha Yassin Ramadan, for the Sudanese anniversary.

Mr. Ramadan hinted the high-level representation was a reward for Sudan's support for Iraq. "This participation and at this level was ordered by President Saddam Hussein as an expression for (Iraq's) great appreciation for Sudan's attitudes," Mr. Ramadan told the official Iraqi News Agency (INA).

Sudan's stand in the crisis over Kuwait angered Saudi Arabia and other Arab donors who have suspended aid to Khartoum.

Mr. Ramadan said Sudan "stood in the face of all intimidations and attractions exerted by America, its allies and its slaves from the traitorous Arab rulers."



Israeli Premier-elect Yitzhak Rabin chats with Labour Party Secretary-General Micha Harish (right) during coalition negotiations in Tel Aviv. Shimon Peres is on left.

Angry emigres behind Shamir's downfall

TEL AVIV (AP) — The pivotal votes to unseat Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir in favour of the left came from Russian immigrants — jobless, entangled in red tape, unschooled in Hebrew and fearful of the future.

Pollsters say immigrants tipped the balance in the June 23 election that ended 15 years of right-wing rule.

Yitzhak Rabin's Labour Party won 44 seats in the 120-member parliament and 12 went to the left-wing Meretz bloc. Mr. Shamir's Likud bloc got 32.

The combination of 56 seats for the left and five for Arab parties was one seat more than needed to prevent Mr. Shamir from forming the government. Polling experts say immigrant votes decided four of those seats.

An Israel Television exit poll indicated 47.1 per cent of the 300,000 eligible immigrants chose Labour, 11 per cent Meretz and 18 per cent Likud.

It was a stunning demonstration of disenchantment following the euphoria with which the immigrant avalanche began two years ago. The newcomers seized the opportunity of their first fully free election to take revenge on the Shamir government.

Natan Shbaransky, a former Soviet human rights activist who lives in Israel, said the immigrants "came to feel that the government was becoming more and more detached from them."

The Likud campaign empha-

sised a crash housing programme that has given every immigrant a home, and its strenuous efforts to create jobs.

As Mr. Shamir often asserted in campaign speeches, no other country has had to cope with a population increase of 10 per cent in just two years, Jordan has a similar problem but Mr. Shamir chose to ignore it.

But Mr. Shamir's arguments were no match for images of doctors working as street sweepers, children working in vegetable markets and families living in crowded mobile homes or spending a fortune on rented apartments.

Likud also tried to capitalise on the immigrants' suspicion of socialist parties. Its Russian-language propaganda portrayed Labour as Bolshevik, flying the red flag and singing the communist anthem.

Labour already had scrapped such trappings, however, precisely because it wanted to attract the immigrant vote.

Its Hebrew name also helped. Avodah means work as well as Labour, and work is the overriding priority of an immigrant population with a 40 per cent unemployment rate.

Every campaign trip by Mr. Shamir or Mr. Rabin included meetings to hear immigrants' grievances.

While Likud could claim credit for bringing the immigrants to Israel, it suffered for being the party in power. "The main thing

was to bring Likud down," said Damjan Kudriavtsev, a young computer expert from St. Petersburg.

The new Israelis also viewed Likud as the party that forfeited \$10 billion in U.S. loan guarantees for immigrant programmes rather than stop building Jewish settlements in the occupied territories. Labour presented Mr. Rabin as the pragmatic moderate who could change Washington's mind.

An immigrant party named Da, the Russian word for yes, fared poorly, attracting only 11,399 votes. Instead, the immigrants chose conventional parties that had a real chance of getting into the government.

Meretz played deftly on the hostility towards Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz, Mr. Shamir's minister in charge of getting the newcomers settled. "Their slogan was 'Meretz or Peretz,'" Mr. Sharanovsky said.

Alexander Sinitchkin, a Hebrew University student from Moscow, said he and many other students supported Meretz because of its liberal values and its fight against the orthodox religious establishment Rabbi Peretz represented.

Yitzhak Polisky, an engineer from Odessa, said 90 per cent of his immigrant friends chose Labour.

Labour recruited well-known immigrant artists and intellectuals, and "portrayed itself very efficiently as a party that wants

changes," Mr. Sharanovsky said. It also promised jobs, pensions for the elderly and housing for single-parent families. Labour even pledged to dismantle Rabbi Peretz's absorption ministry and transfer its budget directly to local authorities that deal with immigrant problems on a daily basis.

Gad Ben Ari, a Rabin spokesman, said the newcomers showed little interest in ideological issues such as the future of the occupied territories.

"Their goal is to settle in, find jobs, give their children a good education," he said. "And this is what we stressed."

The immigrant vote caused some resentment. "They stole our country," disgruntled Likud supporters were heard to complain.

Some officials argue that immigrants should not be allowed to vote until they have been in Israel long enough to understand the issues that preoccupy the entire country.

Uri Gordon, a senior official of the Jewish Agency, which oversees immigration, said many newcomers did not know how they were voting because they spoke no Hebrew and could not read party names on the ballot.

Mr. Sharanovsky agreed that immigrants may not have fully grasped national issues, but said: "Their instincts were healthy and represented the will of the people."

Gunmen use same tactic as security forces in Algeria

ALGIERS (R) — Gunmen used the same road-block tactics as security forces to trap and kill five policemen in Algeria's deadliest ambush for months, state television reported.

It quoted security sources as saying the killers laid bare studded with nails across a road east of Algiers to force two police cars to hurdle out of control. They then riddled both vehicles with automatic gunfire.

Only one man survived the carefully-planned ambush early on Sunday. He crawled, wounded from the scene and used a radio to summon help.

Algeria's security forces use similar studded bars to carry out their own road checks.

There was no indication of who was behind the attacks, involving at least 10 men.

They struck just after midnight on the cancelled 30th anniversary of Algeria's independence and final day of official mourning for assassinated head of state Mohammed Boudiaf.

Television pictures from the scene showed the shooting at Bouadouaou Al Bahri, about 40 kilometres from Algiers, showed shrouded bodies strapped to stretchers, trampled graves mixed with blood, and a white Peugeot — windshield shattered and bodywork perforated with bullets.

Newspapers said a manhunt

had been launched in the area. Reuter correspondents saw increased riot police surveillance in the capital which has seen alternate tightening and relaxing of security checks for the past year.

"None of the gunmen has been arrested so far. But the question is how the gunmen knew that a group of policemen would pass by the place ...," the television commented late on Sunday.

Both cars slewed off the road of control and the gunmen, hiding behind trees, opened fire. "Carnage at Bouadouaou," said the newspaper Al Watan on Monday. It said the ambush mark a resumption of "Classic" terrorism which could intensify in the run-up to the July 12 trial of leaders of the outlawed Islamic Salvation Front (FIS).

About 80 members of the security forces have been killed in ambushes since mid-February when a state of emergency crushed Muslim fundamentalist unrest after cancellation of a general election Islamists were poised to win.

Most deaths have been blamed on FIS extremists.

But groups in crowds of mourners at last Wednesday's funeral for Mr. Boudiaf — gunned down one week ago — blamed supporters of the FIS or of former President Chadli Benjedid for the assassination.

Sunday's ambush was the deadliest since six policemen were killed in a similar attack in the Casbah, the ancient heart of Algiers, on Feb. 10 — the day after the state of emergency was imposed.

Sunday marked Algeria's 30th anniversary of independence, but the mood was subdued as the country was mourning for Mr. Boudiaf.

Mr. Boudiaf was installed by the military as president of the High State Council in January after parliamentary elections were cancelled.

The FIS was winning the elections and set to take over parliament, which had been dominated by the Marxist National Liberation Front, the only party to rule Algeria since 1962.

The council in a communique Sunday signalled its willingness to bring the younger generation into the power structure, saying that its own generation "has accomplished its own mission."

"From now on it is up to them to pass the flame to the elite youth capable of taking it up and committing the nation to the path of progress and modernisation," the communique said.

Newspapers said the high state committee's announcement signalled the end of an era in Algeria. The country's power structure has been monopolised by the same generation of bureaucrats since independence from France

since 1962. They have been blamed for Algeria's current problems. No group has claimed responsibility for gunning down Mr. Boudiaf as he was making a speech a week ago, although suspicion naturally fell on the FIS.

The government has said the assassin was M'barek Boumaaraef, a 26-year-old second lieutenant who was a member of the presidential guard.

The military-dominated high state council, in an apparent move to quell further unrest, issued a statement saying none of its five members would be a candidate in future presidential elections.

The committee is serving out the term of Mr. Bendjedid, who resigned under pressure from the army in January. That term ends December 1993.

The government continued to act with a firm hand against dissent.

Sherif Rezki, editor of the Arab-language magazine Al Khabar, was arrested Saturday after his magazine claimed that Interior Minister Larbi Belkheir, an army general who is also administrator of the state of emergency, had resigned.

The FIS Friday pledged renewed violence unless the aborted legislative elections are rescheduled.

Other flights (Terminal 2)

17:45 Cairo (RJ)
18:05 Frankfurt (RJ)
18:10 Toronto, Montreal (RJ)
18:30 Vienna (RJ)

Other flights (Terminal 2)

13:20 Cairo (MS)
14:10 Riyadh (SU)
14:30 Beirut (MS)
15:05 Bucharest (RO)

Other flights (Terminal 2)

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14:30 Beirut (MS)
15:05 Bucharest (RO)

2 Palestinians sentenced to life for Greek bomb blast

ATHENS (Agencies) — Two Palestinians were sentenced to life imprisonment on Monday for a bomb attack that killed seven people in the western port of Patras last year.

An Athens court sentenced Ibrahim Bairat and Abu Al Nobani under an anti-terrorist law after finding them guilty of causing the bombing and complicity in murder, court officials said.

Four other Palestinians received sentences of between four-and-a-half years and nine-and-a-half years for transporting explosives and arms.

In the attack in April last year, which police said was aimed at the British consulate, 12 kilograms of explosives wrecked the offices of a private mail company.

The blast killed four employees, two clients and a Palestinian carrying the bomb.

As the court president prepared to read the sentences, the relatives of the six victims chanted "Death, death to the murderers," only to be drowned out by screams of "we're innocent" from the Palestinians.

Police officers separated the relatives from the defendants in a special courtroom in Korydallos maximum security prison on the outskirts of Athens.

The court said it voted 3-2 to sentence Bairat and Nobani to

life terms because "as leaders of the Islamic Holy War movement group they were responsible for the attack."

Two Palestinians and a Greek woman, accused on lesser counts, were acquitted.

All the Palestinians were students at Greek universities.

Greece's conservative government, which passed the anti-terrorist law as part of its tough stance against guerrilla activities in Greece, expelled many Arabs after the Patras attack, including Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) diplomats.

"It is evident from the trial the PLO had nothing to do with the tragic incident. On the contrary, from the outset the PLO was cooperative and assisted the Greek government," PLO Ambassador Abdullah Abdullah said.

The government last year expelled five PLO diplomats because of alleged contacts with the ringleader. The PLO had turned Nubani over to Greek police after the Palestinian had sought refuge at the embassy.

It is the second time this year that Greek courts have convicted and sentenced Palestinians for terrorism. A court in January sentenced Palestinian Mohamad Rashid to 18 years for the killing of a Japanese 1982 mid-air bombing of a Pan Am Jetbo over Hawaii.

Police officer wounded in shooting attack in Cairo

CAIRO (AP) — A senior police officer in charge of a prison holding Muslim extremists was wounded Monday in a shooting attack by unknown gunmen, a police spokesman said.

The spokesman said Colonel Mohammad Awad suffered bullet wounds and was in hospital "in good condition."

He said authorities suspected Muslim extremists mounted the attack. He noted that policemen and Coptic Christians have been the targets of most extremist attacks in recent months.

The gunmen escaped, said the spokesman, who requested anonymity under rules of the interior ministry, which handles internal security.

About 30 people have died and several dozen were wounded this year in attacks police blamed on Muslim extremists using violence to force the government to implement Sharia.

The dead included 13 Christians killed in May, a police colonel gunned down in March and Faraj Fawzi, an anti-extremist writer fatally shot in Cairo last month.

Col. Awad was on his way to work at the Tura prison, in a southern Cairo suburb, when his

car came under fire from gunmen, the spokesman said. He could not say whether the attackers rode a car or a motorcycle.

Security sources said Tura prison holds dozens of Muslim extremists, both convicted men and detainees still uncaptured. At several trials of extremists in recent years, officers commanding the prison were accused by defendants and their lawyers of torturing or ill-treating prisoners.

They said Monday's shooting was the third unsuccessful attempt on Col. Awad's life in the past year and authorities believe he has been targeted as a "symbol of the government clampdown" on Muslim extremists. The earlier attacks were not publicised because Col. Awad had escaped unhurt.

The government has cracked down systematically on Muslim extremists since they were blamed for the 1981 assassination of President Anwar Sadat at a military parade in Cairo.

The latest spate of extremist violence began in the spring, unleashing tighter security sweeps in which more than 400 suspects have been detained under an emergency law in force since Sadat's slaying.

Iran authorities continue demolitions of buildings

NICOSIA (AP) — Despite recent violent demonstrations in several cities, Iranian authorities have razed hundreds of illegally built homes and warned the demolitions will continue, Tehran Radio said Monday.

More than 600 homes and businesses were bulldozed Sunday night in the townships of Taleqani, Noruzabad and Sina in Tehran's southern slums, according to a statement by Tehran's municipality.

The radio said the statement warned that "the demolition of illegally constructed buildings will continue."

The destruction of the buildings was seen as an official effort to show that the government was not intimidated by recent demonstrations in several large cities, including Tehran, Shiraz, Mashhad, Arak and Tabriz.

Authorities hanged eight people following riots in Mashhad in

April, in which protesters went on a rampage, burning municipal vehicles and government buildings. The riots often were linked with anger over demolition of illegal buildings.

The Iraq-based opposition group, Mujahadeen-e-Khalq, deplored the demolitions.

In a statement telefaxed to the Associated Press in Cyprus, Maryam Rajavi, the group's secretary-general, said that the Iranian security forces "attack and destroy people's dwellings at night, leaving shelterless women and children stranded."

She said more than 1,000 homes on the outskirts of Tehran and the northwestern city of Tabriz were destroyed in a week.

Since the 1979 Islamic revolution, tens of thousands of Iranians have taken advantage of the revolutionary chaos to construct buildings without obtaining permits.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773117-19

PROGRAMME TWO

12:00	Les Aventures de Joe
12:15	Montage
12:30	Misc of Sophie
12:45	News in French
13:00	Le Cirque
13:15	News in Hebrew
13:30	News in Arabic
13:45	Acropolis Now
14:00	The Palace Guard
14:15	News in English
14:30	Feature film

PRAYER TIMES

02:54	Fajr
02:54	(Sunrise) Duha
12:59	Dhuhr
16:29	Asr
19:59	Maghreb
21:22	Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swatish, Tel. 810740

Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624500

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terrence Church Tel. 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623441

Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 625443

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751

Armenian International Church Tel. 683326

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811285

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Tel. 623404, 624532

Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Another rise in temperatures will take place and winds will be north-westerly moderate. In Aqaba, it will be hot and dusty with northerly moderate winds and calm seas.

Amman	Min./Max. temp.	22 / 35
Aqaba		27 / 41
Deserts		20 / 39
Jordan Valley		25 / 40

Tubeishat stresses his ministry's role in developing communities

ZARQA (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Abdul Razzaq Tubeishat said Monday that his ministry aims to serve citizens and that municipalities were originally created to serve and develop communities.

In a visit to the Zarqa Governorate, Dr. Tubeishat said that the ministry had formed a committee to study issues pertaining to lands owned by the armed forces.

He added that another committee was formed to study issues related to the ownership and division of lands in the governorate. The committee, he said, comprised the Zarqa governor, Lower House of Parliament members representing the governorate, the mayor of Zarqa and Rasmeida, the director of the land registration department.

Zarqa Governor Mohammad

Al Shobaki delivered an address at the meeting and outlined the general situation of municipalities in the governorate. Mr. Shobaki briefed the governor on measures taken by the governorate to tackle its problems, convert some rural councils to municipal councils and solve environmental problems.

Dr. Tubeishat later opened a cultural week and a charity bazaar organised by the Islamic Centre Society on the occasion of the new Hijri year.

Afterwards, he met at Zarqa Chamber of Commerce with heads of local councils, where he stressed the importance of distributing services among citizens.

He said the ministry was hoping to amend the municipalities' law and was eager to create municipalities able to effectively serve citizens. In this regard several joint municipal services councils

were established to give more attention to services, he said.

Dr. Tubeishat affirmed that his ministry believes in the independence of municipalities and freedom of choice, but, he stressed that the ministry still has the right to supervise these municipalities.

He called on municipalities to pay more attention to organisational matters and not to allow new buildings without licences, pointing out that there are some negative aspects in the existing laws which the ministry is trying to amend in cooperation with the heads of the municipal councils.

Dr. Tubeishat said that July 20 was set as a date for a meeting of the committee entrusted with discussing the state-owned land at the governorate.

He said the committee will attempt to find a permanent solution to problems related to this issue.

Centre for International Studies to keep Jordan abreast of global change

By Nur Sati
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Centre for International Studies, a group comprising mostly of economists, was established here two months ago to study, gather and disseminate information on important changes mainly in the ex-Soviet Union and Asia.

The idea to have such a centre, which is part of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), is two-fold. Because the majority of Jordan's population is involved in Middle Eastern affairs, this centre would fill a gap in the country regarding international affairs further east. Another factor is the Kingdom's interest to open trade relations with those countries providing information that is helpful for starting economic relations.

Centre Director, Fakhrudin Daghestani said that although some of the ten members involved in the centre would be stationed in any country where research would be conducted, the researchers would collect information from international publications and other research centres. "We are also planning to include field visits but, we will mainly depend on documented evidence rather than hearsay," he said.

The countries that would be covered at the beginning are Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Kirghizia, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan. The centre will eventually add Georgia, Armenia and other Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), including the Russian Federation.

Dr. Daghestani pointed out that it was necessary to tackle this area in terms of factual and analytical information because of the rapid changes taking place worldwide. "Alliances and structures in the world are changing rapidly and Jordan cannot remain isolated," he said. "Whatever is taking place in the world is bound to affect Jordan," he added.

At the present time, the centre is in the process of formulating a programme to identify the subjects that would be covered based on order of priority. The members

have come up with three programmes, the first of which is related to the CIS countries, particularly the Central Asian and Caucasian Republics, mainly the Islamic states. "We have just begun to collect information and compile country profiles on these republics," Dr. Daghestani said.

Since the group is starting from "zero," general and specific information will include political, cultural and economic data throughout a 30 year period. This will include a brief historical survey and general information regarding the population, land, resources, language and economic indicators.

"Information on these countries has been very limited because they were not part of the international statistical efforts such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund," he said. "Only recently have international organisations begun collecting data. So from the information point of view we are starting on a similar footing with the rest of the world," he added.

The first publication will be out in the next two to three months. The second phase of the three-part programme is to conduct studies on economic relations between Jordan and all of the European Community countries.

The objective of this project, which is estimated to take a year to complete, is to assess relationships during the last few years and to identify new opportunities and define the means of how to improve such economic relations.

The relations between Jordan and each of these individual countries differ a great deal, according to Dr. Daghestani. Some are involved in bilateral economic affairs, others have a technology assistance programme and others have import-export relations with Jordan. "We want to make an assessment to find out how Jordan could utilize available opportunities," he concluded.

The last section of the programme will be compiling information about certain regional organisations such as the Asian group

of countries. "They are a successful model in regional cooperation in south-East Asia. The word Asian floats around everyone but few people know who the members are and how they operate," he said.

The centre is also interested in studying certain texts of agreements signed, or in the process of development such as the Helsinki accord, or the agreements that were signed in the formation of the CIS countries, Dr. Daghestani continued.

Another example is the Islamic cooperation organisation (ICO) whose headquarters are located in Tehran. This is an organisation which began with Turkey, Iran and Pakistan and now five of the Central Asian Republics have become members. "This organisation could open a potential for a giant regional economic cooperation," Dr. Daghestani said. "The ICO countries and Afghanistan constitute seven and a half million square kilometres and 300 million people," he added.

"If those countries move in the right direction, they will play a very prominent role and trigger fundamental changes in the Middle East posture," he said.

"All these are examples of issues that the centre is interested in — issues that are changing very rapidly which Jordan has to keep up with," Dr. Daghestani said.

WHAT'S GOING ON EXHIBITIONS

★ Exhibition of paintings by Mohammad Al Jalous at Baladna Art Gallery.

★ Plastic art exhibition by Iraqi artist Mohammad Al Baladawi at Alla Art Gallery.

FILM

★ Arabic film entitled "The Decider" at the Scientific and Cultural Centre of Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation — 6:30 p.m.



The late King Talal holding His Majesty King Hussein

Jordan remembers King Talal on anniversary of his death

AMMAN — Jordan today marks the anniversary of the death of King Talal Ben Abdullah, father of His Majesty King Hussein and the eldest son of the late King Abdullah, founder of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Soon after King Talal was installed as leader of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on Sept. 6, 1951, he began to work to achieve the objectives of the Great Arab Revolt, led by Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali of Hijaz.

The late King Talal started his reign with the introduction of reforms to the national constitution to develop Jordan's politics, but illness prevented him from pursuing his work. He then handed the standard to King Hussein on Aug. 11, 1952.

The late King Talal was born in Mecca in 1909 and received his military training at Sandhurst Military College in the United Kingdom. He was the first Jordanian army officer to graduate from that college in 1939.

King Talal gave special attention to the development of the

Negligent doctors to be prosecuted

By Hilmi Al Asmar
Petra

AMMAN — Four physicians employed by the Health Ministry in hospitals and health centres have been referred to the prosecutor general after being found responsible by the ministry for the death and permanent disability of several patients because of negligence, Health Minister Aref Bataineh announced Monday.

Dr. Bataineh said that the health ministry will not be lenient with any doctors neglecting their duty and will take drastic action against them.

Sometimes mistakes happen unintentionally, but there are also certain legislations and rules that govern malpractices and negligence; each doctor will always be held accountable for his or her work, said the health minister.

In some cases, he said, doctors involved in minor negligence cases are either referred to a disciplinary council chaired by the Health Minister or to the Jordan Medical Association (JMA) which introduces stricter measures to deal with such malpractices.

Dr. Bataineh urged members of the public not to hesitate in submitting complaints about negligence to the Health Ministry or to JMA. He also expressed regret that many malpractice cases go unnoticed because many patients, unaware of their rights,

don't report problems. The Health Ministry is keen on stemming malpractices by doctors or specialists and is cooperating with the faculties of medicine in Jordan to devise a system for refresher courses for physicians. He said that the Jordanian medical board aims to ensure all those practising medicine are responsible, highly skilled, and up-to-date in their profession.

Dr. Bataineh also announced that the Health Ministry will soon allocate funds to finance advanced courses for physicians and specialists employed by the public sector.

Dr. Bataineh's views were backed by Dr. Ishaq Maraqa, JMA president who urged the public to complain about malpractice to JMA and the Health Ministry.

Dr. Maraqa noted that JMA would not know about various cases and malpractices unless informed about them by patients or their relatives and friends.

JMA never shirks its responsibility in dealing with such malpractices should the complaints prove to be truthful. Dr. Maraqa added that JMA is ready to take stern measures, including closing down a doctor's clinic or preventing him from practising in Jordan.

Dr. Maraqa said patients can raise complaints against doctors who demand surcharges in violation of the association's regulations.

Dr. Maraqa blamed the delay

against doctors in some cases on the lack of a judicial body within the JMA to study complaints as they come, noting that other delays come from the reluctance of witnesses to come forward and testify against doctors.

Dr. Maraqa said that JMA will now embark on a system that would help speed up consideration of any complaint.

Attorney Munir Al Rimawi said that a patient is entitled to compensation for damage caused by malpractice according to Jordanian law. The law was made in order to do justice to the patient and not to punish the doctors. The compensation should either be paid by the doctor or his employer.

At the National Centre for Forensic Medicine, Dr. Mumen Hadidi said doctors in Jordan are inclined to feel that they have some sort of immunity because the public tends to respect the medical profession, assuming that all doctors do whatever they can to save lives.

But of late, more people are becoming aware of their rights and more malpractice suits are emerging, he noted. Perhaps the people are emboldened by the democratic life prevailing in the country, Dr. Hadidi added.

Dr. Hadidi called on the concerned authorities to introduce a line of insurance against medical malpractices to guarantee the rights of all patients.

Queen Noor briefed on projects to help village of Sweimeh

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor paid a follow-up visit this afternoon to the village of Sweimeh, by the Dead Sea, and met with the beneficiary families and individuals of the socio-economic projects which the Noor Al Hussein Foundation has initiated in Sweimeh under the quality of life project.

The Queen visited family beneficiaries of the home gardens project and was briefed by them on the progress of their gardens and the approaching harvest of their newly planted fig, pomegranate and olive trees which the foundation has, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture,

successfully introduced to the salty sand of the Dead Sea area.

Her Majesty then proceeded to inspect the progress of the Shami goats project which has benefited over 40 needy families and was briefed on the improved status of the beneficiaries' nutrition and health.

Her Majesty was accompanied on this follow-up visit by Mrs. In'am Mufti, president of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation and was greeted upon arrival by the governor of Balqa and village dignitaries.

RJ sponsors folkloric arts night

The Royal Jordaoiao (RJ) Troupe for Folkloric Arts will start holding a Jordanian night every Saturday in July, an RJ press release said. It said that RJ's folkloric activities program-

me, which was prepared in cooperation with the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Alla Hotel and a group of tour agencies, aims to increase internal and international tourism in Jordan.

Committees form to raise funds for the Dome of the Rock restoration

AMMAN (J.T.) — As the British firm MIVAN begins work for restoration of the Dome of the Rock in Arab Jerusalem, popular committees, formed to raise funds, are taking steps to finance the project.

According to a report by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the administrative committee has set up a special financial team to introduce a statute for financial matters and for supervising matters related to financing the project.

The agency said that the committee has been holding meetings over the past few weeks to arrange for collections at various centres and for campaigns in Jordan to raise money for the project.

His Majesty King Hussein was the first to contribute to the restoration of the Dome of the Rock when he pledged last May

to provide \$8.24 million.

The head of the Central committee in charge of the scheme Bassam Al Saket announced that a special account has been opened at the Housing Bank for contributions. The announcement followed the latest meeting held in Amman on Monday by heads of committees in the provinces and representatives of the trade unions and charitable and popular organisations involved in the project.

The representatives of the various committees in the provinces discussed financial and administrative matters related to raising contributions and conducting campaigns in their regions.

Dr. Saket said that his commit-

tee is comprised of people in the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and prominent people in the Kingdom.

He called on the public to donate generously to the noble cause of restoring the Dome of the Rock and the other holy shrines in occupied Arab lands.

The British firm signed the JD4.8 million deal with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs to carry out the restoration project in 540 days. According to the terms of the agreement signed last Sunday, the company is to cover the dome with gold-gilded copper sheets supported by lead beams, restore the roofs and install an early warning system against fires.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Parliamentarians to participate in Arab Euro-Dialogue Conference

AMMAN (Petra) — A two parliamentary delegation left Monday for Damascus to participate in the Arab Euro-Dialogue Conference to convene on Tuesday. The delegation is comprised of Lower House of Parliament members Abdul Baqi Jamoun and Ibrahim Khreisat.

Prince Faisal becomes honorary president of Astronomy Society

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ibn Al Hussein has accepted the honorary presidency of the Jordanian Society of Astronomy Amateurs, in appreciation of the society's scientific activities. The society, established in 1987, groups 130 members, including university professors, specialised doctors, businessmen, employees, housewives and students. The society wants to have intensive astronomical courses, to publish a magazine, and also plans to hold the first astronomical conference in September in cooperation with the University of Jordan. Taking part in this conference, to be held in the Jordanian Badia, will be astrology and astronomy enthusiasts from Jordan and elsewhere.

THE JAPANESE FILM FESTIVAL

The Embassy of Japan in Jordan in cooperation with the Royal Cultural Centre cordially invites you to the Japanese film festival to be held from July 6 to 9, 1992 at 7:00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre.

The programme is as follows:
(All films are subtitled in Arabic)
(admission free)

Tuesday, July 7, 1992:

"Children on the Island"

Directed by Yoshitaka Asama, colour, 129 minutes.

Wednesday, July 8, 1992:

"The Ugelsu Story"

Directed by Kenji Mizoguchi, black & white, 97 minutes.

Thursday, July 9, 1992:

"The Yamashita Story"

Directed by Soken Matsubayashi, colour, 115 minutes.

Congregational Supreme Council of the Evang. Lutheran Church in Amman

In a formal enlarged meeting on 19.6.92 the congregation decided unanimously on the following:

1. Concerning the church council (C.C.) decisions of early retirement of the local pastor in Amman and concerning the C.C. decisions of appointing executive committee for the K.G. and the hostel in Amman against the will and the church constitution, the congregation unanimously declares the illegality of the above decisions; and gives full confidence in and support for Rev. N. Smir in his ministry and dedication. Therefore, the C.C. decisions are null and void.

2. The congregation elected the congregational supreme council for 4 years to be fully responsible for Amman church, administratively and in all church affairs and activities like K.G. and hostel etc.

The persons elected unanimously are as follows:-

1. Dr. Carlos Dimis (surgeon) honorary chairman.
2. Rev. N. Smir, the local pastor, as head of the council.
3. Mr. Adel Shatarah (executive secretary)
4. Mr. Nubar Melikian (member of the financial committee).
5. Eng. Sani Awad (member of the financial committee).
6. Eng. Ibrahim Smir.
7. Mr. Asa'ad Kavar.
8. Mr. Usamah Nassar
9. Mrs. Nabillah Khoury
10. Mrs. Larnis Salifu.
11. Mr. Khalil Khoury (cashier)

The various ministries and newspapers were notified.

Signature
Chairman and Members of the Council

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GOVERNMENT TENDERS DIRECTORATE

Ministry of Public Works & Housing Government Tenders Directorate Tenders Announcement Invitation to Central Tender No. (86/92) For New Intelcat Standard "A" Earth Station (BAQA - 4)

International firms specialised in the field of telecommunications are invited to contact the Government Tender Directorate at the Ministry of Public Works and Housing Amman - Jordan to receive tender documents starting from 7/7/1992 and in accordance with the following terms:-

1. Scope of Work:-

The above mentioned project consists of design, supply, installation, testing, commissioning and maintenance of 18-metre-diameter dish, high power amplifiers, low noise receivers, digital transmit and receive equipment, power plant, air conditioning and all associated civil and electrical works on turn-key basis.

2. Financing of this project shall be by "deferred payments" arrangements proposed by the tenderers.

3. Tender price JD 400 non-refundable.

4. Last date for purchase of tender documents is November 7th 1992.

5. Offers shall be submitted to the Government Tenders Directorate before 13:30 local time on Tuesday of Dec. 8th 1992.

Chairman, Central Tenders Committee

Government Tenders Directorate

Eng. Basheer Al Jaghbeer

Jordan Times

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Stop the carnage!

IT IS quite saddening to discover through reading in the obituary pages of the daily newspapers that so many people get killed as a result of road accidents all over the country.

By contrast, very few of the Jordanian dailies' editorials and columns tackle the question of the carnage on the roads except perhaps on the occasion of the "World Traffic Day" when statistics about accidents appear accompanied by old photos, but no more. The Jordanian Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents does, from time to time, issue appeals to the public about the need for careful driving to reduce accidents and minimise human and economic losses. The society's efforts are supported by the Public Security Department (PSD), which issues a weekly bulletin with figures of those killed or injured on the roads and advice to drivers to drive with care and follow traffic signs.

However, it seems that these modest measures are leading nowhere, because the number of those being killed or injured on the roads is on the rise year after year. Only a few days ago and on Mecca Street, a 25-year-old woman carrying an infant and her sister-in-law carrying another baby were hit and instantly killed by a speeding car. The driver was an unlicensed 19-year-old. The majority of such tragic accidents occur as a result of reckless driving by spoiled teenagers. When that accident occurred in the evening there was no policeman or police car in the vicinity.

Police have unfortunately been turning more attention to what many consider trivial matters when compared to the behaviour of rash and inconsiderate young people behind the wheel. A man parking for a few minutes in front of a pharmacy to buy medicine for his sick daughter is issued a ticket, but a speeding motorist with screeching wheels normally escapes punishment unless caught by radar or until he kills someone. What follows tragic accidents is a tribal reconciliation or peace-making between the two sides and soon the accident is forgotten except by the bereaved parents or the close members of the saddened family.

The lack of appropriate police control, the absence of tough legislation and deterrent laws, the continued practice of "reconciliation and peace making" and the continued irresponsible behaviour on the part of motorists are bound to take their toll on the roads of Jordan unless legislative and social reforms have been introduced and strict and irrevocable rules are applied to all citizens under all circumstances.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I daily commented Monday on the signing of a deal between a British firm and the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs on the restoration of the Dome of the Rock in Arab Jerusalem, noting that the deal has put an end to all attempts on the part of certain circles, including UNESCO, to interfere in the affair of caring for and restoring the holy shrines. Jordan has stood firm in the face of the Zionist-led conspiracy aimed at tampering with the status of the holy shrines under the pretext of carrying out restoration work and has aborted plots designed to give Israel a free hand in dealing with matters related to Islamic affairs, the paper said. The conspiracy has been nipped in the bud, thanks to the courageous stand of the Jordanian leadership and the all-out support it received from the Jordanian public which rallied to make arrangements to raise funds for the noble project, the paper continued. Jordan has denied the enemy and the Arab countries colluding with this enemy the chance of achieving their evil objectives and of endangering the status of one of Islam's holiest shrines, the paper added. The paper said that Jordan has not failed the holy city, thanks to the brave and responsible stand of its leadership and people who opted to defend their heritage and their holy places, following in the steps of their predecessors.

A COLUMNIST in Al RA'I Arabic daily strongly voiced Jordan's determination to reject any request by the United States to station U.N. inspectors along its borders with Iraq or in Aqaba to monitor the implementation of the U.N.-imposed sanctions on Iraq. Tareq Masarweh said that Jordan does not export technology or any other banned commodities to Iraq and does not allow merchandise other than food and medicine to go to the Iraqi people. Neither can Jordan accept situation of dealing with the U.S. and colluding with the Iraqi opposition in a bid to overthrow the Iraqi leadership as being sought by Washington through its current pressure on the Kingdom, continued the writer. The U.S. is unable to overthrow the Iraqi leadership and is allowing the Turks, the Syrian and the Iranians to pass on, through their borders, all types of merchandise into or out of Iraq without being questioned by anyone, noted the writer. He said that the Turks are allowed to have free access in trade with Iraq as a compensation for Ankara for its loss of revenues that would have been earned by the continued flow of Iraqi oil in the pipelines to the Mediterranean Sea, and it is known that American companies are continually selling Iraq American-made products, with the U.S. government allowing the unfreezing of Iraqi assets in the United States to finance such operations on condition that the goods bought by Baghdad are purely American. The Americans are even selling blackmail and terrorism on Jordan at a time when its navies continue to search all Aqaba-bound ships and it must be emphasised that Jordan has all the right to reject any request for stationing U.N. inspection teams on its territory, a practice not accepted by the other countries neighbouring Iraq, said the writer. He said that it is also important for Jordan not to fear U.S. threats and it is vital for the Kingdom to continue to import its oil from Iraq and refuse any promises of handouts.

Rabin's aim — a balanced coalition

By Susan Hattis Rolef

NOT so long ago, a new immigrant from the U.S. tried to persuade me that I ought to join the Likud. Why? Because, he said, it was conventional wisdom that there was no way Labour would return to power in the foreseeable future. Therefore, only from within the Likud did I stand any chance of promoting the ideas I believe in.

Until a week ago, the average Israeli would have agreed that Labour was destined to spend many more years in opposition, or as second fiddle in a Likud-led coalition. So much for conventional wisdom.

Throughout the party's years in the wilderness, many, like Labour Secretary-General Micha Harish, had continued to believe that victory was merely a question of hard work — putting Labour's house in order — and time. To them, last week's upheaval came as no surprise.

But this absence of surprise lessened neither the sweetness of victory nor the deep emotions of the crowd of active Labourites which poured into Tel Aviv's Dan hotel after the results of the TV exit poll were broadcast — from elder statesman Abba Eban, who stood on the sidelines looking visibly happy, to the anonymous party member who expressed his joy by blowing a shofar in the best Sephardi tradition.

Several commentators were quick to observe that in Israeli elections, it is more a question of one party losing than of another winning. That is nonsense. True, the Likud did suffer a decisive and monumental defeat similar in magnitude to Labour's in 1977; not even a draw between the two blocs would have managed to undo this defeat.

However, Labour's victory is impressive, and especially the

fact that it finally managed to come up with a formula which could break the vicious circle of the traditional "ethnic vote." There is now no doubt that many Sephardim who had declared themselves disappointed with the Likud ended up putting a Labour ticket into the ballot box — not an easy thing for committed Likudniks to do.

Now that this emotional barrier has been broken, Labour can prepare for a more decisive victory in the next elections — assuming that Yitzhak Rabin delivers the goods: a breakthrough in the peace process, rapid economic growth based on wide-scale foreign loans and investment, and a reduction of tension in Israeli-American relations. Also vital is a change in the national scale of priorities as regards jobs, education, health, welfare services and personal security.

Rabin has already made it clear that he intends to play an active role in making all this materialise. In the first instance, he plans to be personally involved in choosing Labour's ministers to the new government on the basis of their personal qualifications for the job. He also intends to be involved in negotiations with

potential coalition partners, in determining the government's basic guidelines and in ensuring that it functions as a single unit rather than so many warring Byzantine courts. Too many years of Shamir's premiership have made most Israelis forget that this is exactly what a prime minister is expected to do.

The coalition Rabin would like to form (hopefully by July 13) will include Meretz, Tsomet, Shas and the United Tora Judaism Party — a solid government which will command the support of 74 Knesset members. Meretz, which apparently man-

aged to convince itself over the course of the election campaign that the new government would be led by Rabin but directed by Meretz, is, naturally, not too pleased with the way Rabin has decided to hold the coalition negotiations.

Meretz's numerical superiority means it will certainly receive more ministerial posts than the other coalition partners, and its ministers will undoubtedly leave a strong imprint on the government's policies, especially in those spheres for which they will be responsible.

However, the government's

pivot will be Labour alone, and not a Labour-Meretz axis; Labour does not intend to rush into signing a coalition agreement with Meretz before it knows exactly what the conditions of the other potential partners are.

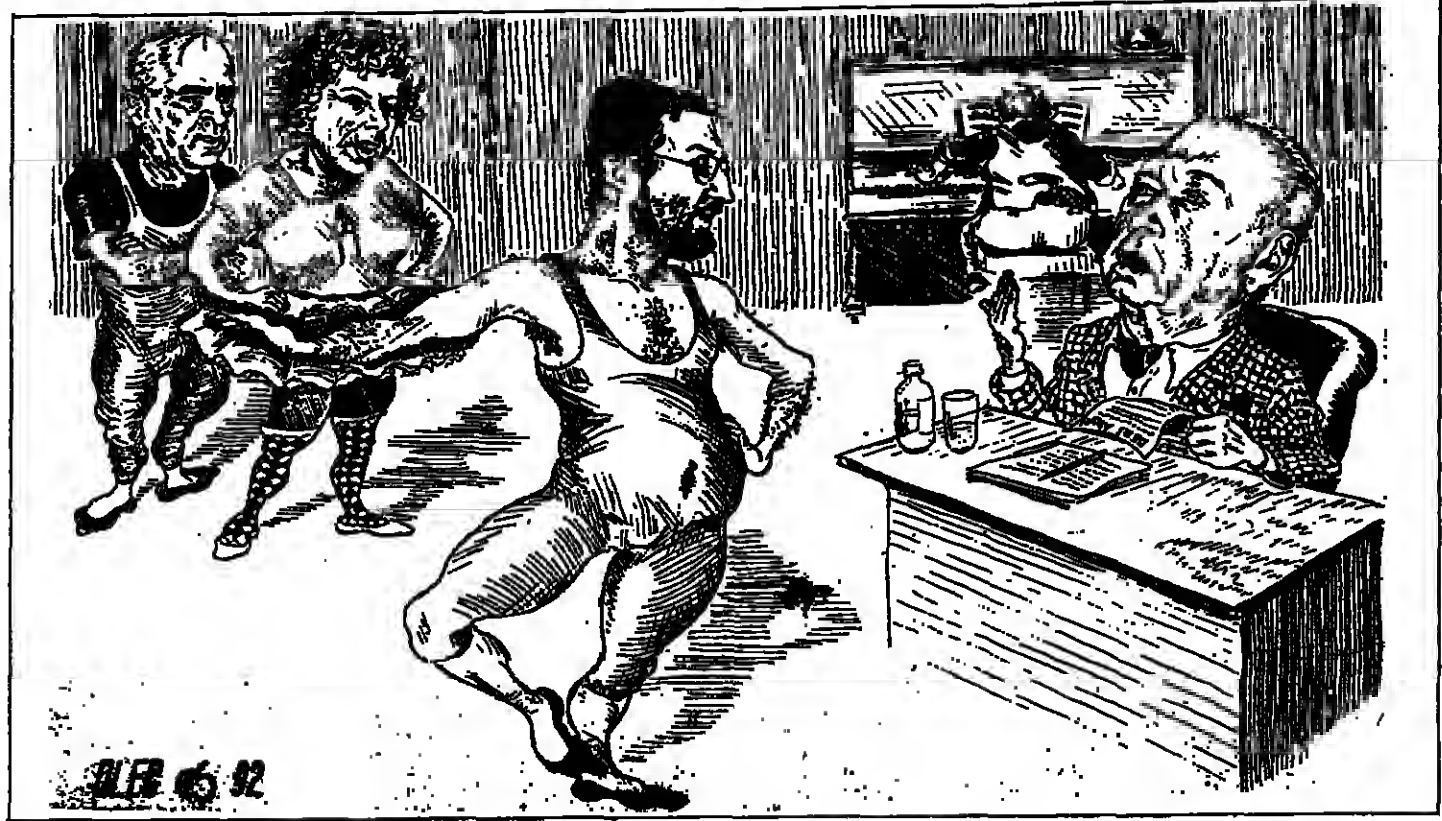
The intention is to form a balanced coalition with Labour ideologically in the centre. Such a coalition will achieve optimal results in terms of policy-making and implementation, and will be palatable to a maximum number of Israelis.

On most issues, this will not be too difficult to achieve. Even as regards reconstructing the religious status quo — hopefully on the basis of constitutional legislation — the new coalition is likely to surprise. The bargaining power of the haredi partners will be much reduced, but they will be eager to capitalise on the National Religious Party's absence from the coalition and to institutionalise financial support for their educational institutions. When they are combined with a solid majority in favour of change (assuming that Tsomet ends up joining the coalition), unexpected results could ensue.

As far as the peace process is concerned, there is unlikely to be any major problem. In the first instance, Rabin is committed to reaching an interim settlement rapidly, and Tsomet is not opposed in principle to the autonomy idea.

In short: Hopes are high. Whether or not Labour actually delivers the goods is totally up to Labour itself — and especially to Israel's next prime minister, Yitzhak Rabin.

The writer is editor of the Labour Movement monthly, Spectrum. The article is reprinted from the Jerusalem Post.



Shamir's defeat could end greater Israel dream

By Jack Redden
Reuters

TEL AVIV — Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's crushing election defeat may shatter right wing dreams of a greater Israel that blocked any hope of a Middle East land-for-peace settlement.

Although Labour Party leader Yitzhak Rabin has moved cautiously towards forming a broad government, the disarray in Mr. Shamir's defeated Likud Party after last week's vote points to a fundamental shift in Israeli politics.

Mr. Shamir says he will quit as party chief soon. Defence Minister Moshe Arens, long touted as his most likely successor, says he will leave politics when the new government is formed. Labour hopes to forge its administration by July 13.

Mr. Arens, an uncompromising rightwinger in office, was asked in a newspaper interview published on Sunday about Mr. Shamir's call for greater Israel. He replied: "I think that slogan does not solve anything."

The slogan had dominated the Likud government ever since it first took power in 1977. When Mr. Shamir became prime minister in 1983, he pledged to create a greater Israel incorporating Arab land occupied in the 1967 Middle East war.

His refusal to surrender a millimetre of the occupied West Bank, Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights, considering them Jewish, angered the international community.

It also made impossible success in the current U.S.-brokered peace talks — based on Wash-

ington's view that Israel exchange captured land for Arab guarantees of peace.

Mr. Rabin has swept that aside, aiming for agreement on limited Palestinian self-rule within nine months to a year announcing an end to Mr. Shamir's drive to make withdrawal impossible by settling Jews on the occupied land.

While pledging to keep Israeli forces on the Golan Heights, Mr. Rabin has emphasised the current status is not sacred and he is open to negotiations with Syria over the future of the plateau.

"We will be ready to carry out our policies on peace and security and change the national priorities of Israel," Mr. Rabin told a news conference aimed at foreign journalists.

Mr. Rabin, who pleaded Israelis with brutal tactics against the Palestinian revolt when he was the defence minister in a broad coalition in 1988, has made clear he will not be soft in peace talks. But jettisoning the inflexible Shamir policies is bound to please the Americans.

Mr. Rabin now has strong hopes of securing U.S. approval for \$10 billion in loan guarantees which Washington had refused to give Mr. Shamir because of his settlement drive.

The guarantees, combined with shifting spending from the occupied territories to Israel, could also spur economic growth that the United States believes is vital for the country's long-term health.

That would also allow Mr. Rabin to revive immigration from the former Soviet Union, which

has sunk to a monthly total of about 4,000 from 30,000 in early 1991. For most Zionists, attracting Jews, rather than expanding Israeli borders, is the ultimate reason for the state.

There are Israelis who do not want to renounce the quest for a greater Israel.

The 100,000 Jewish settlers living beside the 1.75 million Palestinians in the occupied territories are alarmed and angry at the abrupt disappearance of their political patron.

Mordechai Gur, a former army chief who could be the next defence minister, said on Saturday rabbi settlers had warned him months ago of violence — "the process could be very hot, could be very hard and could also be very cruel."

But Mr. Rabin appears determined and in a strong position to push through his rewriting of national priorities.

The narrow 61-59 lead of the Labour-left bloc over the Likud-right group in parliament obscures the extent of Mr. Rabin's victory last Tuesday. Likud, facing a bitter fight over who succeeds Mr. Shamir, was trounced 44-32 by Labour.

Most important, Mr. Rabin has proof most Israelis never shared. Mr. Shamir's territorial ambitions. The defeated prime minister himself has conceded: "I did not believe that there was a majority in favour of a greater Israel."

He also disclosed he was ready to drag out peace talks with Palestinians for 10 years while all the time pouring Jewish settlers into the West Bank to ensure it remained part of Israel for ever.

Rabin — man of war facing prospect of peace

By Bradley Burston
Reuters

TEL AVIV — Israel's next Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, having waged war against Arabs for many of the last 50 years, may soon face the stiffest military challenge of his career — the prospect of peace.

Mr. Rabin, 70, a gravelly-voiced warrior-turned-politician, has helped to shape military doctrine since before battle as an 18-year-old before the state's founding.

He was the army chief who led Israel to a crushing victory in the 1967 Middle East war.

As defence minister in the 1980s, he was the architect of an "iron-fist" policy against the Palestinian uprising in the lands occupied since the 1967 war.

Mr. Rabin's Labour Party defeated the hardline Likud Party in an election last month. He hopes to present a government before the month is out. Mr. Rabin has not said who will head the Defence Ministry, but it may not matter.

"Whoever is chosen as defence minister, in security decisions Rabin will be the one that calls the shots," strategic analyst Joseph Alpher said.

Mr. Rabin has promised to grant limited Palestinian self-rule by early next year and to swap land for peace. Defence analysts say these could prompt major changes in military policy.

Having streamlined military firms as defence minister in the 1980s, he is also likely to confront hard decisions on arms control and the future of expensive weapons development projects, the analysts say.

Mr. Alpher said Mr. Rabin's campaign platform would require "a radically different approach to security" in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud government began U.S.-sponsored peace talks with the Arabs last October but had only begun to discuss autonomy for the 1.75 million Palestinians of the occupied lands.

"The Likud made it clear in its autonomy proposals it wasn't prepared to get into security issues at all," Mr. Alpher said.

Mr. Rabin has vowed to keep security under Israeli control but may be forced, perhaps by Washington, to offer Arabs a security role, Mr. Alpher said.

"If autonomy talks prove successful, and if they involve any withdrawal of Israeli forces, responsibility for some basic security will have to be transferred to the Palestinians, with Arab or international help," the analyst said.

Some of the 100,000 Jewish settlers of the occupied lands



Yitzhak Rabin have threatened violence if autonomy takes effect.

Ex-General Binyamin Ben Eliezer, tipped as police minister in a Rabin-led government, said of the threats: "We will act against that with all our strength."

Another issue likely to pose problems for Mr. Rabin is regional disarmament. Middle East arms control talks were launched last May in Washington as part of

the overall peace effort.

"Mr. Alpher said Israel's stance — stressing confidence-building measures and postponing talks on nuclear weapons — may invite increasing international pressure."

Likud Defence Minister Moshe Arens had called for curbs on weaponry in the Arab World while turning aside questions on Israel's reputed stockpile of up to 200 nuclear warheads.

"What most of the world wants to talk about is Israel's nuclear capability," said Mr. Alpher, a former Mossad spy agency official. "On this issue (Israel) may be headed for some very difficult confrontations."

Mr. Rabin's drive to mend Israel's ties to its guardian ally the United States may shield it from nuclear scrutiny and in a range of weapons sales issues, a defence source said.

Defence and army officials feared Mr. Shamir's dogged rejection of a Jewish settlement freeze and land-for-peace deals could threaten the \$1.8 billion in annual military aid grants Washington gives Israel, the source said.

Most of the aid goes to buy American-built weapons.

LETTERS

Progress through practice

To the Editor:

Your issue dated July 2-3 reported the opening of technical centres at the Higher Council for Science and Technology, the Royal Scientific Society and the Princess Sumaya University College for Technology.

Aims like "adopting modern technologies, transfer of technology, contribution to the socio-economic development of Jordan" are being increasingly reported by the media. Care, however, must be taken lest these terms become empty slogans, for reasons given hereunder.

The backbone of economic advance in the modern world is the manufacturing industry. Academic/technical institutions in the non-industrial world have a pathetic record in addressing the raison d'être: supplying the suitable man-power which is the basis of these industries. It is simply that those in charge have neither the experience and, consequently, nor the appreciation of the nature of this activity. The way in which long-standing programmes at educational institutions, from university to vocational training centres, are conducted is virtually irrelevant to the manufacturing industry.

A belief has flourished among us, namely that those having Ph.D. degrees hold the key to solving all problems. This myth helps to push the issue further away from the relevant path.

The solution lies in having persons with understanding of manufacturing industrial processes, who are now available in Jordan, at the helm. If their terms of reference are right, they should be able to do the job.

It is high time that we put away the front of self-praise and discard the myth of technical advance. Precious time is being lost.

Omar Mango,
Amman.

A social contract for the Arab World

By Mohammad K. Mustafa

THE idea of a social contract is an old one. Hobbes, Locke and Rousseau used it, but not for the same purpose. Thomas Hobbes used the idea of social contract to justify the establishment of absolute government and to give credence to it. John Locke, on the other hand, used the notion to promote and prescribe government by consent as its source of legitimacy; and Rousseau, the biggest dreamer of Western philosophers, used the idea, in contrast to his image as a utopian philosopher, to explain the emergence of the state in a rather factual manner. In other words, he used the idea as a tool of analysis to explain the rise of the state rather than to advocate his utopian vision.

Despite the controversy and debate surrounding the notion of social contract and its appropriate use, the social contract theory has the following features: First, the social contract is a voluntary agreement irrespective of the fact that the contract took place in accordance with Hobbes' state of nature, where life is "short and brutish," in a more harmonious atmosphere, as Locke perceives the state of nature.

Second, and as a consequence, the social contract is established by consensus without coercion or

intimidation. Third, the only incentive, and indeed there can be no other incentive, for individuals to agree or consent to the social contract is the assumption that life would be better off for all.

In the absence of that incentive, a social contract could not be achieved, for the simple reason that if many individuals were to realise that they would become worse off under that contract, would have refused to consent in the first place, and would have continued to live in the state of nature.

For this reason, the social contract theory has been constructed to ensure just that. For example, Hobbes described the state of nature as horrific and brutal and said that the establishment of the state through contract would ensure security and predictability. Although John Locke's description of the state of nature differs significantly from that of Hobbes, Locke made the point that an organised political entity (i.e. the state) is a more efficient organisation for the protection of individual rights, including liberty and property. And Rousseau recognised that the state, which arises out of the contract, would make life more predictable for the poor and more secure for the rich and thus both would be better off.

Any violation of these three conditions of the social contract makes the contract meaningless, as in the first two instances, and unstable, in the case of violating the third requirement. In other words, if the contract does not ensure a condition of mutual benefit for the contracting parties, there will be a constant attempt to violate the principles of the contract or to abandon it altogether.

If we substitute state for individuals, the implications of the theory for inter-Arab states relations become a straightforward exercise. Our starting point is to emphasise that a social contract for the Arab World cannot be but a voluntary agreement.

This, however, does not entitle any single state or states to veto the social contract. Thus, nothing in theory precludes the formation of various groups and multitude of social contracts. And finally for the social contract to get off the ground, every state has to be convinced that it will be better off agreeing to the contract rather than not. This is where I believe the difficulty of forming an Arab social contract lies.

Rereading Arab history using the social contract reconstruction model shows very clearly that many Arab attempts for unity have failed largely because they were in violation of a true social

contract. Any attempt for Arab unity through force, intimidation, coercion or subversion violates the first and the second conditions of a social contract. The emphasis on military alliances and the distribution of Arab wealth do not stand with the third requirement of a social contract. Indeed, it may be a genuine concern on the part of many Arab states that they would be worse off agreeing to an Arab social contract.

Does this mean that an Arab social contract is impossible? The answer need not be yes. Although lack of trust among many Arab countries may hinder cooperation and trust by itself could not totally prevent it. In fact, Hobbes' starting point for the formation of a social contract was the prevailing of mistrust, which characterised his state of nature. However, the engine behind the formation of the contract is mutual benefit. In Arab context, this means concentrating on non-coercive issues, emphasising the voluntary nature of cooperation and underlying consensus. Maybe we need to freeze or abandon "big issues" for a while at least.

The writer is assistant professor at the Department of Politics at the University of Jordan.

Rabin reports progress in efforts

(Continued from page 1)

States since \$10 billion in U.S. loan guarantees were withheld because of Mr. Shamir's refusal to freeze settlements.

Mr. Rabin met Monday with Tzomet leader Rafael Eitan, but no announcements were made after the meeting.

An Israeli-Arab leader meanwhile accused Israel's main political parties of racism for barring Arab parties from government.

Abdullah Darwish, leader of one of two Arab parties which between them hold five seats in parliament, was commenting on Mr. Rabin's efforts.

"Unfortunately, racism still dominates Israel. The two big parties — Labour and Likud — want to keep us out of the decision-making process," Mr. Darwish, head of the Arab Democratic Party (ADP), which has two parliament seats.

"Israel is the only state which brags about being democratic but does not practice it when it comes to Arabs," Mr. Darwish told Reuters.

Labour party leaders, given until July 22 to form a government, on Monday met members of the Arab parties — the communist-dominated Democratic Front for Peace and Equality (DFPE) and the ADP — to secure their support from outside the government.

"(Mr. Rabin wants) to maintain contacts with the two parties and to brief them on the progress in the negotiations with potential partners and to ensure their support, although from outside," Rabin spokesman Ben Ari said.

Israel's 750,000 Arabs helped oust the Shamir government in the election.

Apart from the five parliamentary seats held by the two Arab parties, Mr. Darwish says Arab voters also accounted for at least five seats won by Labour and Meretz.

But on grounds of security no Arab party has been included in an Israeli government since the state was founded in 1948.

Israel's Arabs comprise about 17 per cent of the population. Arab parliament members, hoping for a leftist coalition to advance Middle East peace talks and improve living conditions, have been worried by reports that Tzomet will probably join the coalition.

The mass-circulation Yedioth Ahronoth on Monday quoted a Tzomet document that termed Israeli Arabs "enemies" and called for barring them from parliament or voting in general elections.

The newspaper said Tzomet leader Eitan, who once described Arabs as cockroaches, confirmed the document was legitimate and endorsed its contents.

G-7 leaders open summit

(Continued from page 1)

Monday's most promising potential breakthrough concerned aid for Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

The G-7 appeared poised to endorse an initial \$1 billion of new aid from the International Monetary Fund and consider further disbursements and measures to ease the burden of the \$74 billion of debt which the communists left behind.

Mr. Yeltsin is to lobby the G-7 on Wednesday after the formal summit ends.

Finance ministers heard on Monday from France's Michel Camdessus, the IMF managing director who has just had talks in Moscow which struck an accord in principle on releasing the IMF loan of \$1 billion.

Further disbursements may depend on Russian economic reform while major U.S. credits are held up in Congress.

But Germany, the biggest creditor, is ready to discuss rescheduling Soviet debt and a G-7 push towards an accord on that in the Paris Club of creditor governments is possible.

"The IMF agreement is very important," German Finance Minister Theo Waigel told Reuters.

Mr. Yeltsin's prospects, therefore look brighter than those which greeted his Kremlin predecessor Mikhail Gorbachev when he met the G-7 at its London

summit last year and got little more than sympathy. A Moscow coup followed within weeks. It failed but led to the end of the Soviet Union.

Other countries, notably Japan, are cool to a Bush suggestion that Russia might join the G-7 to make it a G-8.

But word from the German hosts was that Mr. Yeltsin will at least be fed if — as he now seems to plan — he turns up on Tuesday evening before the formal summit ends, whereas Mr. Gorbachev had to miss Queen Elizabeth's banquet in London.

"The G-7 are gentlemen and if a guest turns up a day early he will get something to eat," a German spokesman said.

The G-7 nations are ready to buy first aid for danger-prone Soviet designed nuclear reactors, but were still disagreeing about how to send the money.

Pushed especially by Germany and France, the G-7 nations hope to prevent a repetition of the 1986 Chernobyl calamity by improving the most dangerous reactors and eventually phasing them out — up to 25 of the 57 now producing electricity in Russia and other East European countries.

A fund of \$700 million for quick first-aid measures was being considered, but the United States, Japan and Britain were thinking mostly of coordinated bilateral measures.

Hekmatyar man leads cabinet

(Continued from page 1)

Up to 90,000 people a week are leaving refugee camps in Pakistan to trek back to their villages, many of which have been destroyed by 14 years of war.

The number of families cashing in their ration books for a \$120 grant and 300 kilograms of wheat has more than doubled since the beginning of last month, U.N. officials say.

"There is a concern that people might be going back too quickly," said Pierce Gerety, a senior official of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Afghanistan could face a critical situation later in the year if food shipments, mine-clearing, repair of irrigation channels and provision of seed do not keep up

with repatriation, he said in an interview with Reuters.

"We have barely enough cash to keep up with the encashment grant and the U.N. is generally very short of money needed for the other activities in Afghanistan that are sorely needed to make repatriation a success."

The man in charge of the U.N. relief operation, Benon Sevan, said Afghanistan, one of the world's poorest nations, was already in crisis after 14 years of devastation.

"Even without the war, this influx would have created an emergency situation and money is very short," he said.

A \$180 million emergency appeal launched a month ago by U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali has so far brought in little extra from donor countries.

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Yugoslavia appeals for 100-day reprieve

HELSINKI, Finland (AP) — Yugoslavia said Monday its new government will try to stop the fighting in Bosnia within 100 days and asked the 52-member Conference of Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) not to expel it.

"I beg your forbearance for 100 days, the traditional time allotted to any government to demonstrate its direction and political effectiveness," said Yugoslavia's new prime minister, Milan Panic, in a letter to the CSCE.

"My first goal is to do everything I can to stop the fighting," Mr. Panic said in the letter presented to CSCE delegates.

"We are not prepared to wait 100 days, absolutely not," said John Kornblum, head of the U.S. delegation, which has been working against Russian resistance to expel the Serb-led government of Yugoslavia from the CSCE before a July 9-10 summit of national leaders.

Evgeni Goussarov, head of the Russian delegation, said "we have to consider this 100-day appeal from Yugoslavia. We have to give them the benefit of the doubt."

Yugoslavia is already partially banned from decision-making and it said it would boycott the summit.

But Mr. Panic's letter appeared much more conciliatory than anything the Yugoslavians have recently said during the CSCE debates.

The letter, dated Sunday, said: "I have just accepted the mandate to form a new government of Yugoslavia, which I assure you will energetically pursue the course of peace in Bosnia and Croatia. I need your help, not another obstacle in my path before I have been given a chance to undertake this difficult mission."

Mr. Panic promised to "do everything in my power in the days ahead to take whatever measures I can as prime minister of Yugoslavia to stop the fighting and to seek to resolve the underlying issues by peaceful negotiations."

Yugoslavia's chief delegate to the CSCE conference, Vladimir Pavicovic, said "what we have is a very reasonable request to give us a chance. I am optimistic that the new government to be formed by next week will be able to do it."

Meanwhile, the warring sides in Bosnia's war have promised again to rein in their forces, but a new threat to peace arose as Croatian nationalists declared their own state in one part of the republic.

U.N. workers said aid arriving in Sarajevo in an international airlift is stacking up in warehouses as residents stay indoors because of sniper fire and continued fighting.

Leaders of the world's seven wealthiest nations, meeting in Munich, Germany for a summit, are expected to endorse possible U.N. military action against Serbia, which is accused of fomenting violence in Bosnia, German sources said Monday.

The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the G-7 communiqué would be similar to one endorsed by the European community last month. The EC communiqué backed a U.N. military effort if peaceful means were not successful in ending the Bosnian war.

Gen. Sadiq Nambari, the commander of U.N. peacekeepers in Yugoslavia, said he received renewed promises Sunday to abide by a ceasefire for the airport area from the Bosnian government and ethnic Serbs opposed to the republic's secession from Yugoslavia.

But a new source of conflict arose as a faction of Croat nationalists Sunday declared their own state within Bosnia, the Yugoslav News Agency Tanjug reported Monday.

It said the state of "Herzegovina," with undefined borders, was declared by Mate Boban, a Croat leader with a force of about 30,000 soldiers controlling southwestern Bosnia. His army has been making significant advances against Serb-held positions to the east.

The declaration was condemned Sunday as "illegal and illegitimate" by the Muslim-led Bosnian government in Sarajevo, which includes Croat representatives, Tanjug said.

In Munich, a senior U.S. official said on condition of anonymity that the declaration "is not something we would consider a step ahead... this is not a positive development."

Bosnian officials say more than 7,500 people have been killed in fighting that broke out after Bosnia's majority Muslims and Croat voted for independence on Feb. 29.

French police move in but truck protest goes on

PHALEMPIN, France (R) — Hundreds of riot police cleared the main motorway linking Paris and northern France Monday as the government acted to end a week-long truck drivers' dispute paralysing the country's roads.

About 500 men, including CRS paramilitary riot forces, ordinary police and firemen backed by heavy army vehicles and 15 armoured cars, moved in on a barricade at Phalempin, 10 kilometres south of Lille in the early morning.

After giving several warnings through a loudspeaker, they arrested the driver of the first truck in line, hitched his vehicle to an ANX 30 tank with a cable and towed it away.

Other drivers abandoned their trucks or drove away and the motorway was cleared in both directions within two hours. Traffic was expected to be running again by mid-afternoon.

It was the strongest show of force so far by a government struggling to break the deadlock that has dozens of factories to close temporarily, held up deliveries of food, petrol and spare parts and stranded hundreds of thousands of holidaymakers at the start of the summer season.

"If they don't lift their barricades, we will push their trucks out of the way," Interior Minister Paul Quilès said in a radio interview Monday.

He promised to keep talking to the truckers, angry at the introduction of a new points-based driving licence, and said he would avoid unnecessary violence but added that a mass road blockade was unacceptable in a democracy.

More than 200 barricades remained in place Monday morning, the eighth day of the protest, blocking routes to the Mediterranean and isolating cities such as Lyon, Toulouse and Bordeaux.

Police succeeded in lifting another barricade near Arles in southern France but faced up to 15 new ones.

The main motorway to the southwest was blocked at Poitiers in central France and near Bordeaux further south.

Truckers also closed off trunk roads to Normandy in the north and Chartres, southwest of Paris.

In the southeast, farmers angry at European agriculture reforms joined in the protest, burning tyres and hay on a railway line between Valence and Grenoble.

The state railway company SNCF said the line would be unusable for several hours and reported delays of up to five hours on services in the region.

The truck drivers are demanding the withdrawal of the new-style driving licence based on a points system for offences, which they say threatens their already precarious livelihood.

Mr. Quilès said the new system was essential to cut France's high accident rate and bring the country into line with the rest of Europe but he was prepared to negotiate over details.

The wave of protests is a serious challenge for Prime Minister Pierre Berégovoy, appointed three months ago by President François Mitterrand to try to improve the image of the Socialist government.

Opposition leaders have demanded the points system be suspended or scrapped, while newspaper editorials have criticised the government for appearing powerless.

"Is anyone driving this government?" the southern regional paper Le Meridional asked in a headline.

Alain Juppe, secretary-general of the opposition RPR party cast doubt on the wisdom of using riot police to clear motorways, saying it invited retaliation and an escalation of violence.

The generally pro-government daily Liberation said the points-system licence was a good measure but had been introduced without proper explanation.

It argued the licence was the last straw for workers whose pay and working conditions had been eroded as employers pushed them to deliver goods more quickly and more cheaply.

"Lorry drivers in France are nomads turning into the new proletariat... caught between the government's regulatory hammer and the profit-driven pressure of their employers," the newspaper said.

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Satellite monitoring may annoy cab drivers

TOKYO (R) — A Japanese taxi firm has started using satellites to track cabs and improve customer service — but the idea may annoy drivers who relish the freedom of their job. The system uses satellite and radio signals to monitor taxi movements so customers can be told how long they must wait. "Certainly, more taxi companies are going to use this system in the near future," said an official with the Japan Sea Taxi in Nigata Prefecture in west Japan, which introduced the system three months ago. "It is a very good system, enabling us to offer a better service," he said. "I took this job because it enables me to be a free man," said one Tokyo cabbie. "The Tokyo traffic is very difficult but at least I do not have to go to the same factory every day and be harassed around by people I do not like."

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — A judicial commission cleared President F.W. De Klerk and high-level members of his cabinet and security forces Monday of direct involvement in South Africa's violence.

At the same time, police announced at least 29 people were killed over a weekend that saw deepening mistrust drive white and black leaders further apart.

Police said men and women were shot, hacked and burned to death in scattered fighting around Johannesburg and in Natal province in the east.

The soaring violence is the main factor behind the collapse of democracy negotiations between Mr. De Klerk's government and Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC).

Judge Richard Goldstone, leader of the government-appointed commission, made the statement after hearing two weeks of testimony about the June 17 attack that killed at least 42 blacks in the Boipatong township south of Johannesburg.

The African National Congress, the nation's leading black group, blamed the government, security forces, and Mr. De Klerk for the slayings and suspended political negotiations in protest.

There was no immediate comment on the report from the ANC or from the government, whose relations are at their lowest point since Mr. De Klerk began dismantling apartheid in February 1990.

The ANC claims government security forces instigate clashes to undermine it and to bolster the conservative Inkatha Freedom Party, the ANC's bitter rival.

Police blame clashes on the ANC-Inkatha war and deny supporting either side. They have said the Boipatong killers came from an Inkatha workers' hostel in the area, and more than 80 men have been detained for questioning.

Survivors of the massacre also blamed hostel dwellers, but some survivors claimed the killers were brought to the township in police vehicles and that police did nothing to stop the rampage.

After debating the establishment of the economic court, the leaders turned to the question of maintaining a single ruble zone and establishing rules on how to deal with countries that introduce their own currencies.

The summit, chaired by Kyrgyzstan President Askar Akayev, was also set to deal with several other pressing mutual problems, including critical military issues facing the Commonwealth.

Uzbekistan's President Islam Karimov told the ITAR-TASS News Agency before the summit that it was "necessary to determine the structure and solve the issues of financing and managing what we call the CIS army."

He said it must be done "to avoid the situation which has taken shape in Moldova, where the 14th Army blackmails (Moldova) and states it will independently solve major issues of international relations."

Mr. Akayev told the news agency that the Commonwealth leaders are "greatly concerned by the aggravating war between Armenia and Azerbaijan and by a huge flow of refugees from Moldova."

He said a major task for the 11 Commonwealth states was to stabilise the situation inside the Commonwealth.

Mr. Akayev told ITAR-TASS he hoped the summit would also help consolidate the Commonwealth in economic and humanitarian cooperation.

Other topics expected to be discussed were the issues of strategic forces in Ukraine and control of the Black Sea Fleet.

Georgia, which is not a member of the Commonwealth, sent an observer.

The money is being spent to find out how Republican administrations in the past 12 years handled the multi-billion-dollar thrift disaster. Federally-insured accounts in Savings Banks were looted by owners or managers,

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The investigation will focus on how Republican administrations in the past 12 years handled the multi-billion-dollar thrift disaster. The presidential election is on Nov. 3.

The probe was not targeting Mr. Bush personally or his son Neil, who was reprimanded by a federal regulator for his role as a director of failed Thrift Silverado, Mr. Brown said. But the party chairman said the failed bank is part of the probe.

The scandal is now established to cost taxpayers over \$500 billion including interest over 40 years. The Democrats admitted to

their investigation last week when undeclared presidential candidate Ross Perot and Mr. Bush were trading invective about dirty tricks campaigns.

Mr. Brown said the Bush-Perot spat is a bonus for Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton, expected to be named the Democratic presidential nominee at the Democratic convention next week.

In Little Rock, Arkansas, Mr. Clinton said Sunday he hoped undeclared presidential candidate Perot isn't trying to "buy" the election.

"I don't know — he's got plenty of money," Mr. Clinton laughed. "But I don't think anyone can buy this election." He was responding to a report that Mr. Perot had offered a Clinton campaign fundraiser, Paul Storch, \$600,000 to work for him.

Representative Lee Hamilton of Indiana, a possible choice for the vice presidential slot on the Democratic ticket, said he would be a middle-of-the-road choice for Mr. Clinton.

"My record is a solidly moderate position, and I think that's where the Democratic Party is positioning itself in this election," he said on NBC-TV's programme Meet The Press. Mr. Clinton is expected to name his running mate this week.

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Moldovans, separatists clash in ceasefire violation

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Moldovan forces again battled Russian-speaking Slav separatists in the Trans-Dniester region of eastern Moldova and officials Monday said two people were killed and 12 wounded in overnight fighting.

In the disputed Azerbaijani region of Nagorno-Karabakh, tens of thousands of Armenians were forced to flee from the town of Mardakert village, which was overrun by Azerbaijani forces Saturday.

Representatives of Russia, Georgia and North and South Ossetia, meanwhile, were meeting in the Georgian capital of Tbilisi Monday to discuss deployment of a peacekeeping force to enforce a truce in South Ossetia.

In the Moldovan capital of Kishinev, Defence Ministry spokesman Gheorghe Munteanu said one civilian was killed and seven were wounded in separatist shelling of the village of Kochiery, 47 kilometres north-east of Kishinev. Several houses were destroyed.

Separatists also launched a rocket-grenade and artillery attack on Moldovan positions in the Trans-Dniester city of Bender, killing one and wounding five, Interior Ministry spokesman Dumitru Corleteanu said.

At least 11 people have died in weekend in the fighting which violates a truce agreement reached Friday by Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Moldovan President Mircea Snegur.

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Democrats probe Bush's role in thrift disaster

WASHINGTON (R) — The Democratic Party chairman said his party's investigation into U.S. President George Bush's financial dealings was focusing on his role in the Savings Bank debacle.

"We think the American people deserve to know what happened. How did we get into this \$500 billion mess?" Ron Brown, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, said on Cable News Network programme Newsmaker Sunday.

Mr. Brown said the \$30,000 investigation will probe whether Mr. Bush's friends or family got special treatment in the thrift crisis.

The money is being spent to find out how Republican administrations in the past 12 years handled the multi-billion-dollar thrift disaster. Federally-insured accounts in Savings Banks were looted by owners or managers,

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